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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/601,013	06/20/2003	Ashish Agrawal	249768071US	5759

25096 7590 01/31/2006

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EXAMINER

AHLUWALIA, NAVNEET K

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2166

DATE MAILED: 01/31/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/601,013	Applicant(s) AGRAWAL ET AL.	
	Examiner Navneet K. Ahluwalia	Art Unit 2166	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 20 June 2003.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-60 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-60 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 29 October 2003 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>01/09/2003</u> . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 101

1. 35 U.S.C. 101 reads as follows:

Whoever invents or discovers any new and useful process, machine, manufacture, or composition of matter, or any new and useful improvement thereof, may obtain a patent therefor, subject to the conditions and requirements of this title.

Claim 11 – 25, 31 – 54, 56 – 60 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 101 because the claimed invention is directed to non-statutory subject matter.

Claims 11 – 25 are rejected because the language of claim 11 is more of an abstract idea with no practical application or tangible result in view of the definition of the method. It raises a question as to whether the result in a practical application produces a concrete useful, and tangible result to form the basis of statutory subject matter under 35 U.S.C. 101.

Claims 31 – 37 are rejected because the language of claim 31 is more of a nonfunctional descriptive material. When nonfunctional descriptive material is recorded on some computer-readable medium, it is not statutory since no requisite functionality is present to satisfy the practical application requirement. Merely claiming nonfunctional descriptive material stored in a computer-readable medium does not make it statutory. Such a result would exalt form over substance. In re Sarkar, 588 F.2d 1330, 1333, 200 USPQ 132, 137 (CCPA 1978) (“[E]ach invention must be evaluated as claimed; yet semantogenic considerations preclude a determination based solely on words appearing in the claims. It raises a question as to whether the claims form the basis of statutory subject matter under 35 U.S.C. 101.

Claims 38 – 46 are rejected because the language of claim 38 is more of an abstract idea with no practical application or tangible result in view of the definition of the system. It raises a question as to whether the claims are more of an abstract idea with no practical application or tangible result to form the basis of statutory subject matter under 35 U.S.C. 101.

Claims 47 – 54 are rejected because the language of claim 47 in view of the definition of the computer readable medium from the detailed description of the embodiments raises a question as to whether the result in a practical application produces a concrete useful, and tangible result to form the basis of statutory subject matter under 35 U.S.C. 101.

If the claim language were changed to “computer readable storage medium” it would overcome the 35 USC 101 rejections.

Claims 56 – 60 are rejected because the language of claim 56 is more of an abstract idea with no practical application or tangible result in view of the definition of the method. It raises a question as to whether the result in a practical application produces a concrete useful, and tangible result to form the basis of statutory subject matter under 35 U.S.C. 101.

To expedite a complete examination of the instant application the claims rejected under 35 U.S.C. 101 (non-statutory) above are further rejected as set forth below in anticipation of applicant amending these claims to place them within the four categories of invention.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

3. Claims 1 – 6, 9 – 19, 22 – 33, 36 – 60 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Rorex et al ('Rorex' herein after) (US 6,876,997 B1).

With respect to claim 1,

Rorex discloses a computer-based method for identifying a product relating to a web page (figure 1 and column 3 lines 9 – 15, Rorex), the method comprising:

- providing a plurality of queries submitted by users of a web site, each query having a popularity (figure 2 elements 200, 202 column 6 lines 21 – 28, Rorex);
- receiving content of the web page (column 5 lines 52 – 57, column 12 lines 8 – 20, Rorex);
- identifying provided queries that match phrases in the content (figure 2 element 204, figure 3a element 316 and column 6 lines 35 – 42, Rorex);
- selecting an identified query based on its popularity (figure 2 element 206 and column 6 lines 42 – 50, Rorex); and

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- submitting the selected query to a product search engine to identify a product that is related to the selected query (figure 2 element 208 and column 6 lines 51 – 59, Rorex).

With respect to claim 2,

Rorex discloses the method of claim 1 including selecting the product based on experience-based relevance of the product to the selected query (column 2 lines 46 – 47 and column 6 lines 1 – 10, Rorex).

With respect to claim 3,

Rorex discloses the method of claim 1 wherein experience-based relevance recognition is based on interactions of users with results of similar queries (figure 5 and column 9 lines 1 – 16, Rorex).

With respect to claim 4,

Rorex discloses the method of claim 1 including selecting product data for the selected product (column 4 lines 44 – 52, Rorex).

With respect to claim 5,

Rorex discloses the method of claim 1 wherein the content is an article of the web page (figure 3a element 310e, Rorex).

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With respect to claim 6,

Rorex discloses the method of claim 1 wherein the content is a headline of the web page (figure 3a element 360e, Rorex).

With respect to claim 9,

Rorex discloses the method of claim 1 wherein the content is provided by an associate of a vendor web site that sells products (figure 3a element 340 and column 7 lines 1 – 11, Rorex).

With respect to claim 10,

Rorex discloses the method of claim 9 wherein the associate is compensated based on a user purchase of an advertised product (figure 3a element 350a and column 7 lines 29 – 34, Rorex).

With respect to claim 11,

Rorex discloses a computer-based method for identifying a product to be associated with content (figure 1 and column 3 lines 9 – 15, Rorex), the method comprising:

- providing a plurality of queries (figure 2 elements 200, 202 column 6 lines 21 – 28, Rorex);
- identifying a query from the plurality of queries based on its relevance to the content and its popularity (column 2 lines 46 – 47 and column 6 lines 1 – 10, Rorex); and

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- selecting a product that matches the identified query as the product to be associated with the content (figure 2 element 206 and column 6 lines 42 – 50, Rorex).

With respect to claim 12,

Rorex discloses the method of claim 11 wherein the plurality of queries correspond to queries submitted by users (figure 5 and column 9 lines 1 – 16, Rorex).

With respect to claim 13,

Rorex discloses the method of claim 11 wherein the relevance of a query to the content is based on matching phrases in the content to queries (figure 2 element 204, figure 3a element 316 and column 6 lines 35 – 42, Rorex).

With respect to claim 14,

Rorex discloses the method of claim 11 wherein the identifying of queries selects a relevant query that is most popular (figure 2 element 206 and column 6 lines 42 – 50, Rorex).

With respect to claim 15,

Rorex discloses the method of claim 11 wherein the selecting of a product includes:

- identifying products that match the identified query (figure 2 element 204, figure 3a element 316 and column 6 lines 35 – 42, Rorex);

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- ranking the identified products based on the experience of users who accessed results of similar queries (column 2 lines 46 – 47 and column 6 lines 1 – 10, Rorex); and
- selecting a high-ranking product as the product that matches the identified query (figure 2 element 206 and column 6 lines 42 – 50, Rorex).

With respect to claim 16,

Rorex discloses the method of claim 11 wherein the content is related to an article (figure 3a element 310e, Rorex).

With respect to claim 17,

Rorex discloses the method of claim 16 wherein the content is a headline of the article (figure 3a element 360e, Rorex).

With respect to claim 18,

Rorex discloses the method of claim 16 wherein the content is a body of the article (figure 3a element 360c and 310c, Rorex).

With respect to claim 19,

Rorex discloses the method of claim 16 wherein the content is a portion of a body of the article (figure 3a element 360c and 310c, Rorex).

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With respect to claim 22,

Rorex discloses the method of claim 11 wherein the content is a portion of a dynamically generated web page (page 3 paragraph [0027] lines 1 – 15, Rorex).

With respect to claim 23,

Rorex discloses the method of claim 11 wherein the content is provided by an associate of a vendor web site that sells products (figure 3a element 340 and column 7 lines 1 – 11, Rorex).

With respect to claim 24,

Rorex discloses the method of claim 23 including providing to the associate an advertisement for the selected product (figure 3a and column 7 lines 1 – 11 and 29 – 34, Rorex).

With respect to claim 25,

Rorex discloses the method of claim 24 wherein the associate is compensated based on a user purchase of the selected product (figure 3a element 350a and column 7 lines 29 – 34, Rorex).

With respect to claim 26,

Rorex discloses a method in a computer system for providing information relating to content (figure 1 and column 3 lines 9 – 15, Rorex), the method comprising;

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- sending content to a web service, the web service for providing a plurality of queries (figure 2 elements 200, 202 column 6 lines 21 – 28, Rorex), for identifying a query from the plurality of queries that is related to the sent content (figure 2 element 204, figure 3a element 316 and column 6 lines 35 – 42, Rorex), and for selecting a product that matches the identified query as the product to be associated with the content (figure 2 element 206 and column 6 lines 42 – 50, Rorex);
- receiving information relating to the product associated with the content (column 5 lines 52 – 57, column 12 lines 8 – 20, Rorex); and
- displaying the content and the received information (figure 3a).

With respect to claim 27,

Rorex discloses the method of claim 26 wherein the identifying of a query is based on popularity of the query (figure 2 element 206 and column 6 lines 42 – 50, Rorex).

With respect to claim 28,

Rorex discloses the method of claim 26 wherein the received information is product data (column 4 lines 44 – 52, Rorex).

With respect to claim 29,

Rorex discloses the method of claim 26 wherein the received information is an advertisement (column 4 lines 44 – 52, Rorex and figure 3a).

With respect to claim 30,

Rorex discloses the method of claim 26 wherein the web service is provided by a vendor and the content is provided by an associate of the vendor (figure 3a element 340 and column 7 lines 1 – 11, Rorex).

With respect to claim 31,

Rorex discloses a computer-readable medium containing a data structure comprising:

- a plurality of queries submitted by users of a web site (figure 2 elements 200, 202 column 6 lines 21 – 28, Rorex); and
- for each of the plurality of queries, an indication of the popularity of the query among the users (figure 2 element 206, column 2 lines 46 – 47 and column 6 lines 1 – 10 and 42 – 50, Rorex).

With respect to claim 32,

Rorex discloses the computer-readable medium of claim 31 wherein the popularity of a query is based on when users purchase a product identified by results of the query (figure 5 and column 9 lines 1 – 16, Rorex).

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With respect to claim 33,

Rorex discloses the computer-readable medium of claim 31 wherein the popularity of a query is based on when users request information on a product identified by results of the query (figure 5 and column 9 lines 1 – 16, Rorex).

With respect to claim 36,

Rorex discloses the computer-readable medium of claim 31 wherein the data structure is recreated on a periodic basis based on queries recently submitted by users (column 8 lines 27 – 34, Rorex).

With respect to claim 37,

Rorex discloses the computer-readable medium of claim 31 wherein the data structure is updated as users submit new queries (column 8 lines 27 – 34, Rorex).

With respect to claim 38,

Rorex discloses a computer system for providing a query relating to content (figure 1 and column 3 lines 9 – 15, Rorex), comprising;

- a popularity-based query table containing queries submitted by users and indications of the popularity of the queries among users (figure 2 elements 200, 202 column 6 lines 21 – 28, Rorex);

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- a component that identifies queries of the popularity-based query table that match the content (figure 2 element 204, figure 3a element 316 and column 6 lines 35 – 42, Rorex); and
- a component that selects an identified query based on its popularity as indicated by the popularity-based query table (figure 2 element 206 and column 6 lines 42 – 50, Rorex).

With respect to claim 39,

Rorex discloses the computer system of claim 38 including a component that submits the selected query to a query engine to identify information relating to the content (figure 2 element 208 and column 6 lines 51 – 59, Rorex).

With respect to claim 40,

Rorex discloses the computer system of claim 39 wherein the query engine is experience-based (column 2 lines 46 – 47 and column 6 lines 1 – 10, Rorex).

With respect to claim 41,

Rorex discloses the computer system of claim 39 wherein the information is product data (column 4 lines 44 – 52, Rorex).

With respect to claim 42,

Rorex discloses the computer system of claim 38 wherein the content is received from an associate of a vendor's web site (figure 3a element 340 and column 7 lines 1 – 11, Rorex).

With respect to claim 43,

Rorex discloses the computer system of claim 38 wherein the identifying of queries includes identifying the longest phrases of the content that match a query (figure 2 element 204, figure 3a element 316 and column 6 lines 35 – 42, Rorex).

With respect to claim 44,

Rorex discloses the computer system of claim 38 wherein the popularity of a query is based on when users purchase the product identified by results of the query (figure 5 and column 9 lines 1 – 16, Rorex).

With respect to claim 45,

Rorex discloses the computer system of claim 38 wherein the popularity of a query is based on when users request information on a product identified by results of the query (figure 5 and column 9 lines 1 – 16, Rorex).

With respect to claim 46,

Rorex discloses the computer system of claim 38 wherein the queries are submitted by users of a web site (figure 2 and 3a).

With respect to claim 47,

Rorex discloses a computer-readable medium containing instructions for controlling a computer system to provide product data by a method comprising:

- generating a popularity-based query table containing queries submitted by users of a vendor's web site and indications of the popularity of the queries among the users (figure 2 elements 200, 202 column 6 lines 21 – 28, Rorex);
- receiving content from an associate of the vendor's web site (figure 1 and column 3 lines 9 – 15, Rorex);
- identifying queries of the popularity-based query table that match the received content (figure 2 element 204, figure 3a element 316 and column 6 lines 35 – 42, Rorex);
- selecting an identified query based on its popularity as indicated by the popularity-based query table (figure 2 element 206 and column 6 lines 42 – 50, Rorex);
- executing the selected query to identify products that match the query (figure 2 element 208 and column 6 lines 51 – 59, Rorex);
- retrieving product data associated with an identified product (column 4 lines 44 – 52, Rorex); and
- sending the retrieved product data to the associate (figure 3a).

With respect to claim 48,

Rorex discloses the computer-readable medium of claim 47 wherein the executing of the selected query is performed by an experience-based query engine (column 2 lines 46 – 47 and column 6 lines 1 – 10, Rorex).

With respect to claim 49,

Rorex discloses the computer-readable medium of claim 47 wherein the identifying of queries includes identifying the longest phrases of the received content that match a query (figure 2 element 204, figure 3a element 316 and column 6 lines 35 – 42, Rorex).

With respect to claim 50,

Rorex discloses the computer-readable medium of claim 47 wherein the popularity of a query is based on when users purchase a product identified by results of the query (figure 5 and column 9 lines 1 – 16, Rorex).

With respect to claim 51,

Rorex discloses the computer-readable medium of claim 47 wherein the popularity of a query is based on when users request information on a product identified by results of the query (figure 5 and column 9 lines 1 – 16, Rorex).

With respect to claim 52,

Rorex discloses the computer-readable medium of claim 47 wherein the products are offered for sale by the vendor (figure 3a element 340 and column 7 lines 1 – 11, Rorex).

With respect to claim 53,

Rorex discloses the computer-readable medium of claim 47 wherein the content is derived from a web page to be served by the associate (column 4 lines 44 – 52, Rorex and figure 3a).

With respect to claim 54,

Rorex discloses the computer-readable medium of claim 53 wherein the associate is compensated by the vendor when a user to whom the web page is served purchases the product from the vendor (figure 3a element 350a and column 7 lines 29 – 34, Rorex).

With respect to claim 55,

Rorex discloses a computer system for identifying products related to content (figure 1 and column 3 lines 9 – 15, Rorex), comprising:

- means for providing a popularity-based query table (figure 2 elements 200, 202 column 6 lines 21 – 28, Rorex);
- means for receiving a request to identify products related to content (figure 2 element 204, figure 3a element 316 and column 6 lines 35 – 42, Rorex);

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- means for selecting a query from the popularity-based query table (figure 2 element 206 and column 6 lines 42 – 50, Rorex);
- means for identifying products that match the query (figure 2 element 204, figure 3a element 316 and column 6 lines 35 – 42, Rorex); and
- means for providing the identified products in response to receiving the request (figure 2 element 208 and column 6 lines 51 – 59, Rorex).

With respect to claim 56,

Rorex discloses a method in a computer system of a vendor for providing product data relating to content provided by an associate of the vendor, the method comprising:

- receiving from the associate a request for product data for a product relating to content (figure 1 and column 3 lines 9 – 15, Rorex);
- identifying a query that matches the content (figure 2 element 204, figure 3a element 316 and column 6 lines 35 – 42, Rorex);
- executing the identified query to identify a product that matches the query; retrieving product data relating to the product that matches the query figure 2 element 208 and column 6 lines 51 – 59, Rorex); and
- sending to the associate the retrieved product data (figure 3a).

With respect to claim 57,

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Rorex discloses the method of claim 56 wherein the query is identified based on the popularity of queries among users (figure 2 element 206 and column 6 lines 42 – 50, Rorex).

With respect to claim 58,

Rorex discloses the method of claim 56 wherein the query is not identified based on the popularity of queries among users (column 2 lines 46 – 47 and column 6 lines 1 – 10, Rorex).

With respect to claim 59,

Rorex discloses the method of claim 56 wherein the method is provided as a web service of the vendor (figure 3a element 350a and column 7 lines 29 – 34, Rorex).

With respect to claim 60,

Rorex discloses the method of claim 56 wherein the product data is an advertisement for a product sold by the vendor (figure 3a element 340 and column 7 lines 1 – 11, Rorex).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

4. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

5. This application currently names joint inventors. In considering patentability of the claims under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), the examiner presumes that the subject matter of the various claims was commonly owned at the time any inventions covered therein were made absent any evidence to the contrary. Applicant is advised of the obligation under 37 CFR 1.56 to point out the inventor and invention dates of each claim that was not commonly owned at the time a later invention was made in order for the examiner to consider the applicability of 35 U.S.C. 103(c) and potential 35 U.S.C. 102(e), (f) or (g) prior art under 35 U.S.C. 103(a).

6. Claims 7 – 8, 20 – 21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Rorex et al ('Rorex' herein after) (US 6,876,997 B1) as applied to claims 1 – 6, 9 – 19, 22 – 33, 36, 37 and 38 – 60 above, and further in view of Barsness et al ('Barsness' herein after) (US 2003/0028441 A1).

With respect to claim 7,

Rorex discloses the method of claim 1 wherein the web page represents a web log (column 12 lines 38 – 48, Rorex).

Rorex however does not explicitly disclose the content representing a web log.

Barsness teaches the content as a web log (page 3 paragraph [0032], Barsness).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art of data processing at the time of the present invention to combine the teachings of cited references because they are both targeted to marketing online. Furthermore, the web log of Barsness's invention would improve the effectiveness of marketing campaigns (page 1 paragraph [0009], Barsness).

With respect to claim 8,

Rorex discloses the method of claim 1 (figure 1 and 2, Rorex) wherein the web page contains an instant messaging message.

Rorex however does not explicitly disclose an instant messaging message.

Barsness teaches the web page containing an instant messaging message (page 3 paragraph [0027], Barsness).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art of data processing at the time of the present invention to combine the teachings of cited references because they are both targeted to marketing online. Furthermore, the web log of Barsness's invention would improve the effectiveness of marketing campaigns (page 1 paragraph [0009], Barsness).

With respect to claim 20,

Rorex discloses the method of claim 11 wherein the content is a web log (column 12 lines 38 – 48, Rorex).

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Rorex however does not explicitly disclose the content representing a web log.

Barsness teaches the content as a web log (page 3 paragraph [0032], Barsness).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art of data processing at the time of the present invention to combine the teachings of cited references because they are both targeted to marketing online. Furthermore, the web log of Barsness's invention would improve the effectiveness of marketing campaigns (page 1 paragraph [0009], Barsness).

With respect to claim 21,

Rorex discloses the method of claim 11 (figure 1 and 2, Rorex) wherein the content is an instant messaging message.

Rorex however does not explicitly disclose an instant messaging message.

Barsness teaches the web page containing an instant messaging message (page 3 paragraph [0027], Barsness).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art of data processing at the time of the present invention to combine the teachings of cited references because they are both targeted to marketing online. Furthermore, the web log of Barsness's invention would improve the effectiveness of marketing campaigns (page 1 paragraph [0009], Barsness).

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7. Claims 34 and 35 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Rorex et al ('Rorex' herein after) (US 6,876,997 B1) as applied to claims 1 – 6, 9 – 19, 22 – 33, 36, 37 and 38 – 60 above, and further in view of Xreferplus.

With respect to claim 34 and 35,

Rorex discloses the computer-readable medium of claim 31 wherein the data structure is a hash table or B-tree (column 7 lines 64 – 67, column 8 lines 1 – 17, Rorex).

Rorex however does not explicitly teach the data structure is a hash table or a B-tree. However hash table and B-tree are well known in the art as shown in Xreferplus. Furthermore hash table and B-tree are used for efficient and effective indexing and search results. Therefore it is obvious to implement the data structure using a hash table or B-tree.



Contact Information


Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Navneet K. Ahluwalia whose telephone number is 571-272-5636. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:30am - 5:00pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Alam T. Hosain can be reached on 571-272-3978. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Navneet K. Ahluwalia
Examiner
Art Unit 2166

Dated: 01/10/2006


MOHAMMAD ALI
PRIMARY EXAMINER